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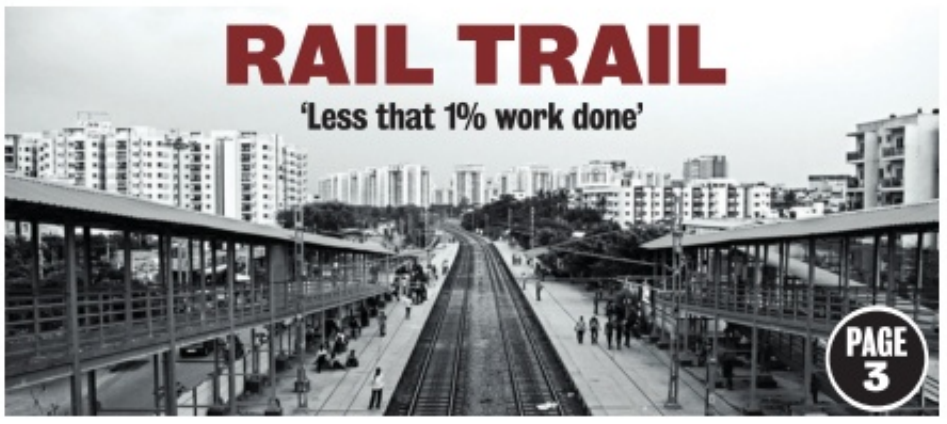
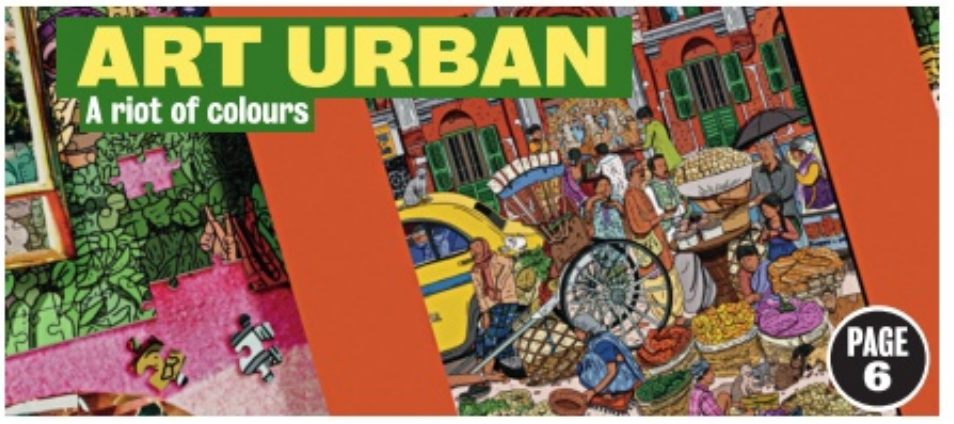
Bangalore Mirror ON SUNDAY

TEMP Max 33 | Min 21 | Humidity 63% Partly cloudy Sensex 59,655 | Nifty 17,624 | Gold 59,855 | Silver 74,670 | Dollar 82.04 | Euro 90.04 | GBP 102.02





Lack of safety checks at construction site in CV Raman Nagar has children living in vicinity falling sick frequently

BOOM DUST

Homes, vehicles caked with layers of dust every day

| Garima Prasher
garima.prasher
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

> "We had called the police multiple times, but it appeared even they are 'hand-in-glove' with the contractor
>
> — Raman, resident

Many residents living in various apartment complexes behind Bagmane Tech Park, in a residential sub-locality of CV Raman Nagar, said their children have developed dust allergies after construction began in the area a year ago.

Prakash*, a resident of Sreeja Tanishq apartment complex, said his seven-year-old son is one of the victims of dust pollution.

"My child developed breathing issues and a dust allergy a couple of months ago. It started with the occasional cough; soon the cough became persistent. One day we noticed him breathing faster than usual and took him to a doctor. After examinations, the doctor told us that he has developed breathing difficulties due to the inhalation of excessive dust," said Prakash, who is also suffering from breathing issues.

"Although I am asthmatic, things were under control over the last seven to eight years. Now, even my breathing issues are back," rued Prakash.

According to the residents, absence of green curtains around the site, lack of regular sprinkling of water at the site, heavy vehicles plying in the area,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 »

Space conquest

VV Towers Plaza yet to be thrown open for public even a year after deadline

| Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Hundreds of people who visit Visvesvaraya Towers, and employees who work at various government departments, were quite happy when the Department of Urban Land Transport (DULT) took up the development of the public space on the Visvesvaraya Towers premises. DULT has developed the vacant space near the big tower at an estimated cost of Rs 75 lakh.

Many people who visit Visvesvaraya Towers to meet government officers are not happy with the inordinate delay in throwing open the public space for them.

They want DULT to open the public space – VV Towers Plaza – without any delay. DULT got the administrative approval in October 2021 and the developmental work began in December 2021; it was expected to be completed by March 2022 by Karnataka Rural Infrastructure Development Limited (KRIDL).

However, VV Towers Plaza is yet to be thrown open for the public even one year after the deadline.

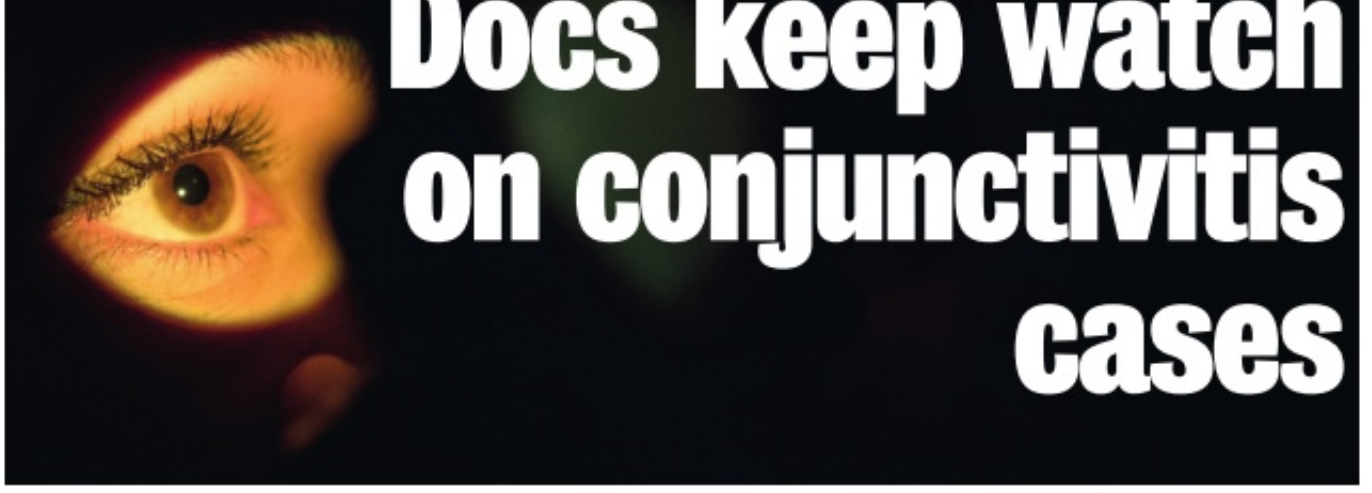
Sources said DULT authorities decided not to open the space till the elections to the state assembly are held and a new government is formed. They cite the model code of conduct for the delay in opening

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12 »

Faith and peace

To mark the end of the fasting month of Ramadan, Muslims offer prayers at Eidgah Maidan in Chamarajpet on Saturday

PIC: KAUSHIK JN



Docs keep watch on conjunctivitis cases

With peak summer, incidents of pink eye and dry eye conditions are on rise

Iffath Fathima
Iffath.Fathima
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Avoiding rubbing one's eyes, maintaining good hand hygiene will help keep eye infections at bay, say health professionals

With the onset of summer, there has been a rise in incidents of eye infections in the city. Cases of conjunctivitis that are commonly known as pink eye, and dry eye conditions have increased in the past few weeks. The health professionals in Bengaluru have cautioned people to take measures and follow hand hygiene to avoid aggravation of the infection.

During the summer, many people engage in outdoor activities such as swimming in pools, lakes, or the ocean, which increases their risk of developing conjunctivitis.

Bacteria, viruses, and other microorganisms can thrive in warm, moist environments, making it easier for them to spread and infect individuals.

In addition to swimming, conjunctivitis can also be caused by exposure to other irritants, such as pollen, dust, and other allergens that are more prevalent during the summer months.

These irritants can cause inflammation of the conjunctiva, leading to redness, itching, and discomfort.

Dr Ashwin Santosh Shetty, Consultant - Ophthalmology, Aster CMI Hospital, Bengaluru said, "There has been a 25 per cent increase in cases of conjunctivitis across all age groups. These infections often accompany upper respiratory infections and present with symptoms such as redness, watering, discharge."

Symptoms of conjunctivitis include redness of the eye, discharge or tearing from the eye, itchiness or irritation, and blurred vision.

Conjunctivitis can be highly contagious, and individuals who experience these symptoms should seek medical attention as soon as possible to prevent the spread of the infection.

Dr Jyoti Shetty, Consultant – Ophthalmology, Manipal Hospital Old Airport Road, Bengaluru said, "The exam season also means people are spending more time on their computers and books, which can further aggravate dry eye. Allergic eye diseases are commonly seen in the spring, but they can also surge in the summer due to the presence of moulds and pollen.

"When red eyes are associated with sticky discharge, it could be infectious and contagious, so, it is best to visit an ophthalmologist at the earliest. Dry eyes can be treated with lubricants, and patients can step up the use of those lubricants if their symptoms worsen."

To prevent the spread of infection, the health professionals advised that it is crucial to avoid rubbing your eyes and maintain good hand hygiene by washing one's hands or using hand sanitiser, especially if they are suffering from the infection.

This can help prevent the infection from spreading to the other eye and to other people.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Neelakanta, Advocate Sheshagirihalli village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk, Ramanagara District, I hereby issue this Public Notice on behalf of my client Smt. Chayadevi W/o G. Ganesh, Residing at No.683, Sarojamma Layout, Behind Police Station, Bidadi, Ramanagara Taluk, Ramanagara District.

This Notice hereby given that, the Registered Document No. 4702/1995-96,

Property Schedule

Ramanagara District, Bidadi Hobli, Bidadi, Sarojamma Layout, Khatha No.935/811/3 of St. No.3, And Dimension East:- West:- 40 Ft, North-South:-30Pt. East: Channabasappa Vacant Land, West: 25 ft Raod, North: Site No.02. South: Site No.04, Bearing original Sale Deed Dated: 16.03.1996 executed between 1) N.Nagendra and 2) K. Ladhu Lal Jain and Ramesh Chand, registered at: Ramanagara Sub Registrar, Karnataka is being lost un traceable and has been misplaced in the house. The Lost report of the same has been lodged at the Bidadi Police Station, Karnataka on 24.03.2023, vide D.P. No.46/2023, If Found, Kindly informed to my client Smt. Chayadevi W/o G. Ganesh, address as mentioned in this documents including any claims, disputes or any issues, by 3rd parties the same shall be reached out to my client are to my address as above within 07 days, failing which my client will proceed further on the basis of the Certified Copy of the said document and no claims thereafter shall be entertain.

Date: 21.04.2023

NEELAKANTA, Advocate
Sheshagirihalli, Hejjala Post,
Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara
Taluk, Dist - 562109
Mobile: 9880259128

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Checkmate!

Nexus Koramangala Mall in an effort to engage with the young minds of the city, has organised a "Big Brains - Chess Tournament". Chess enthusiasts of any age are urged to come forward and submit their registrations and be part of the epic mind game.
Where: Nexus Koramangala Mall
When: April 23, 10.00 am onwards

02 Book talk

Join Atta Galatta for a book reading by author Inez Baranay. Inez is an Australian writer; she has published over 12 books, seven of them novels, as well as short stories and essays in a range of publications. She will be in conversation with Nandita Bose. Nandita is a Bangalore based writer, poet, book reviewer, and occasional feature writer for newspapers and portals. **Where: Atta Galatta**
When: April 23, 6:30 pm

03 Love for jazz

Banyan Tree's World Jazz Festival is back. The festival will feature an extraordinary line-up of eminent jazz musicians from the Netherlands, USA, Brazil, Serbia and South Korea. The performers will also collaborate with some Indian musicians at this concert.
Where: Chowdiah Memorial Hall
When: April 28, 6:30pm onwards
Tickets: bookmyshow.com

Rail work, stuck on the slow track

| Garima Prasher
garima.prasher @timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Disappointed with the slow pace of the suburban rail project, rail enthusiasts in the city say all the corridors of the project are bound to miss both deadlines. Activists highlight that while over 40 per cent of the time allocated in the sanction letter for completion of all four corridors is over, work done on the ground is less than 1 per cent.

The project covering 148 km through four corridors was sanctioned in October 2020, but little has moved on ground. While the deadline as per the sanction letter by the Centre is October 21, 2026 for all corridors, the airport corridor covering 41.4 kilometre was to be completed by October 2023. To add to that, the project got a fresh deadline of October 2025, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi made a public commitment ten months ago.

"There is no way any of the corridors will be completed in the stipulated time frame as we have lost a lot of time. On June 20, when the PM made the commitment, public representatives should have swung into action and started working towards meeting the deadline. Political will is lacking and public representatives are not discharging their duties," said a city-based rail enthusiast.

However, K-RIDE officials say the project is still on track and most of the paperwork, which is behind the scene work, has now been completed.

"We agree that things have not moved on ground. This is because a lot of backstage work, which form the backbone of the project, has been going on and is on the verge of completion. Since the public cannot witness these activities, it is given that they will be restless and predict a delay," said a source from K-RIDE.

The rail enthusiasts recently met RK Singh, director, project and planning, K-RIDE and requested to review certain design plans of the proposed suburban rails.

"We recently met RK Singh and have requested him to ensure the availability of appropriate washrooms. As per the sanctioned design, none of the trains on all four corridors have a washroom facility," said Rajkumar Dugar, founder, C4C.

Activists say any train with a commute duration of over half an hour should have this facility and incorporating this provision to suburban rail will add to the USP list, say the proponents.

"Normally, trains have washrooms as the default provision. If no washroom is provided, a person who wants to use the washroom will have no option but to get off at the next station, use the facility on the platform and then take the next available train," added Dugar.

According to the activists, with a higher percentage of people having health issues such as diabetes and keeping in mind the elderly, the need for relieving oneself sometimes becomes very urgent.

"While the drawbacks of having washrooms include space constraints and maintenance, the benefits far outweigh them," said a public transport enthusiast.

Bangalore Mirror
K-RIDE pushes tender for corridor 1 of suburban rail further delaying much awaited mobility boost for Bangaluru
TAKEN FOR A K-RIDE?

BM's recent story spoke on the project's tender being delayed

Investing in bitcoin? Watch out for scams

| Ahna Prakash
c-ahna.prakash
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The latest online scam doing the rounds is one leveraging people's interest in bitcoin mining. Cyber criminals are messaging people on social media sites like Instagram and asking people to invest in bitcoin mining. Later, their account is being hacked and fake content related to bitcoin mining is posted.

One such victim, S Mondol, recently received a message on her Instagram where the person asked her to give their page a shoutout on Instagram and invest in bitcoins and in return, she would be paid Rs 2 lakh.

"Initially I was a bit sceptical but after we had a conversation on call, I trusted them. They asked me to give their page a shoutout on their Instagram post and they will pay me for it. I was fine with it and felt like this is what social media influencers are doing and there is nothing risky in it. Later, they told me they had sent me the payment but I had not received it. Later when I asked them about it, they said that they have sent an OTP on my number, which I have to share with them and only then would I get the payment," she said.

"Fraudsters are very skilled and they convince people to share OTPs. Banks also send reminders to people to not share any kind of OTP

After giving the OTP to the person, the victim's account was hacked and her number and email was removed from the account. "I can't log in my own account and now they are posting content from my account. I had the person's number so I contacted them again. He claimed that he was a Nigerian national and he will only give my account back if I send him money."

Mondol has filed an online FIR but her account has not been recovered yet.

Mirza Faizan Asad, cyber security expert, says that people should separate the number that is associated with their bank and the number that they share out in public.

"Financial scams by OTP-sharing are common. One should not share any OTP. Fraudsters also make you install AnyDesk in your system and then they get all the information," he said.

CRIME FILES

IPL team's cricket equipment found

The Bengaluru police on Saturday reported that Indian Premier League (IPL) team Delhi Capitals' missing cricket equipment has been found. The accused have been identified as Cheluvaraju and Sudanshu Kumar Naik, who both reside in Bengaluru but are originally from Mysuru and Odisha.

According to the police, Ananda Agrawal, the managing director of Express Freight System India Pvt Limited, reported the missing cricket kits on Friday, April 21, at the Cubbon Park Police Station.

The two accused have been booked under Section 379 of the IPC.

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M SHREELAKSHMI 584 - 97.33%
NAVYA L K 584 - 97.33%
SAMRUDH SHRIDHAR 584 - 97.33%
BHARATH H K 583 - 97.17%
BHARATH K C 583 - 97.17%
CHINMAYI B R 583 - 97.17%
JEEVAN KISHOR S G 582 - 97%
MITHALI GONCHIKAR 582 - 97%
PCMB TOPPERS
Above 99% > 02
Above 98% > 05
Above 97% > 40
Above 96% > 78
Above 95% > 122
Above 94% > 166
Above 93% > 212
Above 92% > 261
Above 91% > 293
Above 90% > 318
Distinctions - 431
First Class - 140
Second Class - 05
College Percentage 99.82%
Number of Centum's (100's)
Physics - 05
Biology - 05
Chemistry - 03
Kannada - 03
Mathematics - 21
SUBJECT WISE DISTINCTION
KANNADA - 468
ENGLISH - 330
PHYSICS - 503
CHEMISTRY - 319
MATHEMATICS - 425
BIOLOGY - 414
COMPUTER SCIENCE - 24
Congratulations
The Management, Principal and Staff.

There's some confusion here

RR Nagar, Dasarahalli residents complain that GAIL pipeline work is not progressing

| Melvin Mathew
c-melvin.mathew
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Despite the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) no-objection response to the Lokayukta, residents of RR Nagar and Dasarahalli complain that GAIL pipeline work is not progressing. Previously, residents were told that the agency was objecting to the project. After repeated failures in implementation, eight Resident Welfare Associations (RWA) collectively filed a complaint with the Lokayukta about the delay. As per the complaint, the RWAs noted that GAIL informed them that the PNG connection work has not been completed due to non-cooperation by ward officials of BBMP. However, in response to the Lokayukta complaint, BBMP has stated that it has no objection to the project. Residents question the real reason for the delay now.

The project has been pending for the past five years. Despite having pipe connections at home, residents of apartment 2276 are forced to depend on LPG for daily cooking use.

Residents were approached by GAIL for PNG connections in 2016 and 2017. Subsequently, GAIL completed the installation of the PNG Pipeline and meters within the apartment complexes of the Associations in 2017 and 2018. GAIL had applied for road cutting (69.584 km) for gas pipeline work. In 2018, GAIL completed laying the network in the Peenya ward for 30 km, which successfully enabled the supply of PNG to all the industrial units in Peenya. However, 19.10 km in the HMT Ward was halted due to objections by BBMP ward officials.

Further, GAIL took up the matter with the Government of Karnataka, and a joint meeting was held on December 28, 2018, which was presided over by the Chief Secretary and attended by the Commissioner of BBMP. At the meeting, a decision was taken instructing ward officials not to raise any objection. Additionally, GAIL was asked to pay an additional 5 per cent for road cutting. Subsequently, they paid Rs 280 lakh to BBMP. However, work never resumed.

> **"Our apartment has had the home connection for the past five or six years, but some part of the pipeline is incomplete**
> – Kasinath Bhat, J al Vayu Heights Apartment Owners Association

A resident of the area said that as the apartment opted for PNG connections, they are forced to keep LPG cylinders outside. "The builder has provided the line and everything; the meter and connection are ready, but the pipeline is yet to be charged. As there is no slot for keeping cylinders, we are keeping our LPG cylinders on the balcony. GAIL officials said that currently, the line is still at NTTF circle, and our apartment is in the HMT ward," said Tata Rao, President of Arge Bloom Welfare Association.

"Our apartment has had the home connection for the past five or six years, but some part of the pipeline is incomplete. Due to this, we are not able to avail of the services," said Kasinath Bhat of Jal Vayu Heights Apartment Owners Association.

"We were told that before providing services, all the 360 flats were piped in 2018. Since then, there has been no response, and all our requests have been falling on deaf ears. We were told that this will be a safer and more convenient system," said Srinidhi Swaminathan of Vaishnavi Ratnam Apartment Owners Association, Dasarahalli zone.

GAIL officials told Bangalore Mirror that they will look into the work in two or three days. "Due to the election season, we will take up work after that.

We will check with the contractor and try to resume work in two or three days," said a senior GAIL official.

Karnataka logs 537 fresh Covid cases

Karnataka registered 537 fresh Covid cases in the past 24 hours, the state health department said on Saturday. As per official statistics, 15 persons have died in the last 15 days in the state.

Sources in the health department said the situation is turning "serious" and people should follow Covid-appropriate behaviour.

The number of active cases in the state stands at 2,027. The positivity rate for the day is 3.06 per cent and weekly total positive rate is 3.52 per cent. Bengaluru reported 367 fresh Covid cases and 360 discharges.

There are 1,337 total active cases in Bengaluru Urban district. Many districts have started reporting Covid cases in double digits. Shivamogga reported 30 cases, highest after Bengaluru.

Health department is on alert in Mysuru which recorded 18 cases, Belagavi (14), Vijayanagar (12), Davanagere (12), Bellary (10) district. All other districts reported cases in single digits except six which logged zero infections.

XBB.1.16 is now 'variant of interest'

The World Health Organization (WHO) has upgraded Omicron subvariant XBB.1.16 to a covid-19 "variant of interest" (VOI) due to its "sustained increase" and "growth advantage" reported from several countries.

XBB.1.16 is a descendent lineage of XBB, a recombinant of two BA.2 descendent lineages. XBB.1.16 was first reported on January 9, this year and designated a variant under monitoring (VUM) on March 22.

So far, 3,648 sequences of the Omicron XBB.1.16 variant have been reported from 33 countries, including India, on open research platform GISAID, the global health body, said.

"Following a sustained increase in the prevalence of XBB.1.16 and growth advantage reported from several countries, WHO classifies XBB.1.16 as a VOI," said Maria Van Kerkhove, technical lead for covid-19 response at WHO on Friday. Van Kerkhove noted that XBB.1.16 has shown "growth advantage and immune escape". While "no changes in severity have been reported, it can cause a full range of disease", she said. – IANS

File photo of a crowd in Kumara Krupa Road for the Chitra Santhe event

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Is this needed?

JP Nagar

There is unnecessary chopping of trees going on in JP Nagar 7th Phase.

Danger danger

Vijayanagar

These hanging cables and rods may injure two-wheeler riders or pedestrians in Vijayanagar, MC Layout.

VIP treatment?

Indiranagar

Do government vehicles have special privileges? This one is parked in front of a no parking board in CMH Road, Indiranagar.

Namma Yatri: Two thumbs up, one down?

Though commuters, auto drivers like the idea of keeping middlemen out using the app, they say some hiccups still remain

Rachana Ramesh
mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Namma Yatri, a Bengaluru-based auto booking application, has begun to gain much popularity for its no commission policy, among commuters and auto drivers. While many have entirely made a switch to the recently launched application, a few have pointed out flaws that have stopped them from making the move.

Sanjana Rao, an IT employee who frequently uses the application, said that the exact fare is not specified while booking, instead, a range is provided, which may be misleading. "The price is comparatively similar to that of other aggregator apps. However, since I know that the entire fare amount will be received by the driver, I would rather choose the Namma Yatri than others to support our workers," she said.

While many have had pleasant experiences, there are those who have not managed to find a booking. Mohammed Zubair, a student, said that he tried to book an auto once but was unable to. "The drivers can also charge Rs 10-20 rupees extra and we are bound to pay it," he said, referring to the 'optional driver request', where the driver can charge 10% of the base fare in cases where there is extreme traffic or chances of a long return trip.

A few auto drivers in the city are shifting to the Namm Yatri app

Vijay Moses, an auto driver who has begun to use Namma Yatri, said that the no-commission principle has attracted many auto drivers to use the application. "Working for more than 12 hours would not fetch me more than Rs 1000-1,200 every day considering the high commission (reaching 30%) with aggregator apps," he said. However, the trips that auto drivers get remain the highest during peak hours only, making them have to switch between other aggregator apps. Namma Yatri is hoping to address the problem of a dwindling customer base through marketing strategies of referral codes and using word of mouth. Auto unions across the city have supported the application for abolishing middlemen, encouraging their drivers to switch to the application.

> **"The price is similar to that of other aggregator apps. However, since I know that the entire fare amount will be received by the driver, I would rather choose Namma Yatri** –Sanjana Rao, IT employee

A spokesperson from Juspay, which has built the application and has priorly worked on open initiatives like UPI and OCEN, said that in the past three months, they have grown 20 times, cashing in an average of 25,000 trips a day with a customer base of 5.5 lakh and 55-56,000 auto drivers. While Namma Yatri is currently functioning on a no commission model, a few months down the line, auto drivers can expect to pay for subscriptions.

"This will happen only after we receive a vote of confidence from auto drivers," the spokesperson said, explaining that the subscription will function similarly to prepaid recharges made for mobile phones. "It is completely up to the auto driver to choose. Say for a month, he is not in town, he can opt out," he added. At the moment, usage of Google maps is costing the most for the initiative. Noting that Juspay at the core is a technological company which has bills to pay, he said, "Our core competency is that we know how to reduce costs to the minimum. We're burning very less compared to other aggregator platforms out there."

The Dynamic Duo Fighting Plastic Waste Pollution in Mysore: NMF and Jagruth's Innovative Solutions

Mysore, a city known for its glorious palaces, vibrant culture, and enchanting beauty, is on a mission to become India's cleanest city. It is not just a pipedream, thanks to the extraordinary efforts of Namma Mysore Foundation (NMF), a non-profit organization has taken the lead in promoting sustainable waste management in the city.

NMF partnering with Jagruth Tech Pvt Ltd, a waste management company that has revolutionized the way plastic waste is dealt with in Mysore, is leading the charge with innovative solutions to tackle the plastic waste crisisand create a positive impact on the community and the environment.

Under the leadership of Mr. Dasharath, Managing trustee, NMF has been actively engaging with the local community to create awareness about the importance of proper waste disposal and recycling. The organization has set up waste collection points across the city to ensure that waste is disposed of in a sustainable manner.

Jagruth Tech Pvt Ltd has emerged as a crucial partner for NMF in their mission to combat plastic waste pollution. The company collects plastic waste from various sources, including NMF's waste collection points, and processes it using innovative upcycling technology to create Eco Interlock Pavers. Mr. Dinesh Bopanna, one of the Directors at Jagruth Tech Pvt Ltd throws light on the Eco Interlock Pavers. These pavers are made from a mix of plastic waste and other materials, which are then transformed into interlocking blocks used for various applications, such as pavements, walkways, and driveways. This not only diverts plastic waste from ending up in landfills or oceans but also provides a sustainable solution for utilizing plastic waste in construction materials.

NMF has partnered with Jagruth Tech Pvt Ltd to put plastic waste to the best use in Mysore

NMF and Jagruth Tech Pvt Ltd are not just working towards sustainable waste management but are also encouraging and supporting the younger generation to address plastic waste pollution. One such initiative is Chompix, a mobile pre-plastic recycler machine designed by Neeraj Nagaraj, a 16-year-old 11th-grade student. The machine converts plastic waste into reusable cubes that can be used to make various plastic products.

The collaborative efforts and encouragement of Namma Mysore Foundation and Jagruth Tech Pvt Ltd have been commendable in addressing the plastic waste crisis in Mysore. Their sustainable waste management initiatives andinnovative solutions have set an example for others to follow. As NMF continues to encourage young minds to come up with solutions to tackle plastic waste pollution, Mysore is well on its way to achieving the cleanest city title.

In conclusion, Mysore is not just a city of beauty and culture, but also a city of action and innovation. The efforts of Namma Mysore Foundation and Jagruth Tech Pvt Ltd have shown that it is possible to tackle the plastic waste crisis and create a positive impact on the environment. It is now up to the citizens of Mysore to embrace sustainable waste management and take the city to new heights.

THE SUNDAY READ

It's not just a 'riot of colours'

City-based maximalist illustrator turns her art into puzzles

| Rohini Banerjee
c-rohini.banerjee@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Architect-turned-illustrator, Surabhi has a diverse range of inspirations that inform her whimsical and escapist art. Bangalore Mirror caught up with the city-based maximalist artist who shared her journey, inspirations, and challenges she faced, including creating a 1,000-piece puzzle of her artwork.

"I've been drawing as long as I can remember, but at the same time I was also building things, so I think each one has informed the other, right back to crayon in one hand, and Knex in the other," she said.

Surabhi's background in architecture seeps into her illustrative style. She explains that her artwork focuses on the story and that she enjoys experimenting with a dramatic range of colours in her drawings to contrast the moroseness of everyday life. Most of her illustrations evolve from a character or a nostalgic environment, and she imagines the personal interiors of each of her characters or populates her space with imaginary people. Her goal is to create what it feels like to walk through an undiscovered antique shop full of trinkets and memorabilia.

Her inspiration comes from digital artists, comics, and graphic novels. Surabhi is drawn to the Ligne Claire style started by Herge, which strips the image down to its bare form, with crisp line-work. Her current idols are Chris Ware, François Schuiten, Benoît Peeters, Adrian Tomine, and Maurice Sendak.

Surabhi's use of colour, character, and environment creates an escapist experience, letting the viewer imagine their own stories within her art

She converted four of her favourite illustrations to a 1000-piece puzzle, which she says was her most challenging project so far. It took her months to sift through manufacturers before finding someone willing to do it.

Her jigsaw puzzle was inspired by the covid pandemic, which made her yearn for something beyond screens and self-imposed deadlines. She spent hours looking for adult puzzles that were not kitten-in-basket or water-lily-in-pond images before eventually finding a couple that were quite striking.

"Puzzles helped me manage my anxiety. When doing a particularly garish and uninspiring puzzle, though, I realised that too often the artwork gets in the way of its meditative qualities. I became something of a puzzle addict. Ever since, the thought of bridging my work with puzzles had always been at the back of my mind. I was naturally drawn to four illustrations I worked on since each of these were densely populated (perfect for avid puzzlers)," she told BM. They all have a rich cultural backdrop that people can relate to. She also needed the puzzles to be challenging enough so that one could keep themselves engaged for hours and days even.

"I would like to believe that architecture is the reason for my experimentation in different art styles. The difference that exists between what I illustrate and architectural drawings lies in the fictional aspect I try to incorporate in my illustrations. In my artwork, I get to annihilate the rules of structure and physics and get to focus more on the story," she explained.

Several of her illustrations make strong social commentaries. "My illustration 'Homogenous' straddles somewhere between the delicate lines of identity and religion," she said. It shows two school girls of different backgrounds trying to mask their identities to not be discriminated against based on what they wear or look anymore.

While she does not favour any of her work over the others, she has a soft spot for one. "Bajaar builds up around the periphery of municipal markets, where street vendors, food stalls, and flower baskets jostle for space with customers and stray animals. Even while drawing I marveled at the fact that so many people eke out a living in such a small space in reality. The illustration is not just a riot of colours, but a wholesome treat for our senses, with a tinge of nostalgia, leaving us with a sense of empathy for all the souls we encounter," she explained.

Surabhi's use of colour, character, and environment creates an escapist experience for the viewer that allows them to imagine their own stories within her art.

Her illustrations can be viewed/purchased on https://www.surabhibanerjee.com/shop and https://www.instagram.com/surabhi_b6/.

Your plate could be saving you

Indian diets contain ingredients that could be keeping severe covid at bay

| Melvin Mathew
c-melvin.mathew
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Indian dietary habits tend to be plant-based with less consumption of animal products, which could be a factor responsible for lower covid-associated deaths in India compared to western countries. A team of international researchers conducted a study on covid from a nutrigenomics perspective to understand if food habits have any role in the severity of covid and deaths. Published in the 'Indian Journal of Medical Research', the research paper suggests that apart from vaccination and other measures, Indian food habits might have led to low covid severity. The study was led by Professor Debmalya Barh and Padma Bhushan Professor Nirmal Kumar Ganguly.

Despite being a densely populated country, WHO data suggests that death per 1 lakh population (1/1,00,000) from covid is five to eight-fold lower in India (~428/ Sq Km) compared to less densely populated western countries (36-92/ Sq Km). The study revealed that the Indian diet, rich in fiber, contains staple foods with high quantities of zinc and iron, such as idli-sambar in the south and rajma rice in the north, which are essential in preventing carbon dioxide (CO_2) and lipopolysaccharides (LPS)-mediated hypercapnia and increased blood glucose, cytokine storms that trigger covid severity. The regular consumption of tea in India may also act as the natural cholesterol-lowering drug atorvastatin, maintaining high HDL and low triglyceride in the blood. Turmeric contains curcumin, which is an immune booster, anti-inflammatory, and antioxidant compound.

The study was conducted by identifying two groups: low death rate countries (India) and high death rate countries (USA, Greece, and Spain) and identifying per capita daily consumption of key foods/spices/nutrients between these two groups at the national level. Vegetables, whole grains, legumes, red meat, dairy products, fish, alcohol, coffee, fruit, nuts, tea, and turmeric were identified as probable key variables between these two groups, and researchers correlated these variables with observed death rates and performed in-depth comparative pathways and nutrigenomics-based various analyses of blood transcriptomes of asymptomatic and severe covid patients from these two groups of populations. The study found that western populations consume more red meat, alochol, and processed foods than Indians who consume more legumes, tumeric, and vegetables. Western food habits could have contributed to the severity of covid.

However, researchers said that a multi-centred, large-scale, case study was needed to confirm their results.

Roll on safe tyres

To prevent accidents, transport activists seek check on tyre condition of vehicles entering Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway; suggest speeding be kept in check too

Activists in Bengaluru want speeding to be addressed first on Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway

Rachana Ramesh
mybangaloremirror
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Recently, the Maharashtra transport department reported that over 500 vehicles were denied entry on the Mumbai-Nagpur Expressway because their tyres were worn out or in a state unfit for use. Activists in Bengaluru are calling for a similar drive on the Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway to ensure minimal mishaps. However, they stress that issues such as speeding must be addressed first.

Sanjeev Dyamannavar, a transport expert, said that instead of focusing on the tyres, the authorities must make sure all the rules are strictly enforced. "There may be instances where the vehicle's tyres may be in a good condition but its braking system may fail due to speeding by the driver. What will they do then?" he said.

He added that the officials will have to come up with strategies to ensure instances such as speeding or even drunk driving can be curbed on the spot.

Along with denying entry to vehicles depending on the health of the tyres, Road Transport Office (RTO) officials in Maharashtra also detected the average speed of the vehicles which completed their journey by noting the time when the vehicle entered the expressway and made an exit. If the speed was more than the permissible limit, the exit gates were locked automatically and the officials on duty were alerted.

Sanjeev suggested that such a system must be put in place that includes patrol vehicles stationed at strategic locations with patrol guns. Those who are caught with faulty vehicles should have their licenses suspended.

> **"There may be instances where the vehicles's tyres may be in good condition but its braking system may fail due to speeding**
>
> –Sanjeev Dyamannavar

"If you start applying these kinds of criteria, a large number of people will be thwarted from doing what they need to do for their livelihoods," said Ashwin Mahesh, an urbanist.

The value of the tyres must be judged on whether they are functional, and not merely by their appearance, by officials.

The working class may not be able to afford to upgrade their tyres on a regular basis. However, they follow speed limits that are suitable for their tyre's condition. It is bad driving that must be feared the most, and officials should implement procedures to curb dangerous road practices, he added.

Between 2019 and the end of February 2023, nearly 448 people were killed in 393 fatal road accidents on the Bengaluru-Ramanagara stretch.

The Mandya-Mysuru stretch has recorded over 390 deaths in 378 road accidents, involving fatalities. The Ramanagara stretch begins from the Nice Road junction past Kengeri on the border of Bengaluru and ends at Nidaghatta, which lies on the edge of Mandya. The Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway is currently open only until Nidaghatta and was opened to motorists last year.

The stretch till Mysuru is still under construction.

RCB: Going green for game and city

Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) are all set to showcase their commitment towards green initiatives as they will play the 'Green Game' of this year's Indian Premier League (IPL) on Sunday at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium against Rajasthan Royals.

The Green Game was conceived in 2011 and since then RCB has dedicated one of their home matches to the 'Go Green' initiatives to spread awareness about the need for a cleaner and greener environment.

RCB players will be sporting recycled green jerseys for the match on Sunday. These jerseys are made utilising the recycled waste collected at the stadium.

RCB's season opener match alone generated 9047.6 kg waste in the stadium as 19,488 water bottles were used.

As per estimates, an average of 8 tons of dry waste, food waste, and other recyclable waste are generated from a stadium after every match. Implementation of waste segregation practices has helped gather and segregate dry, food, and non-recyclable wastes, and process them completely to further make recycled products like shirts and other goods.

Working closely with Good Era, implementation partner for Go Green initiative, RCB have uniquely developed a Green Army, a one-of-its-kind sustainability help group that they take copious help from to keep the stadium premises clean.

"RCB is the world's first carbon-neutral cricket team and the foremost cricket franchise in the world rallying behind a people's driven movement for a greener planet. Go Green is not just an initiative for us but an aspiring movement to seek behavioural changes, contributing to solving various challenges related to climate change. It transcends beyond cricket and connects fans at a much deeper level, an engagement with a purpose," said Rajesh Menon, VP and Head of Royal Challengers Bangalore, according to a press release.

This year's mission will also see RCB restore two lakes in South Bengaluru covering 44 acres and close to 200 schools will see the Green School certification roll out. **–ANI**

Electric fences caused 63% of jumbo deaths in 2 yrs

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Recently, a female elephant was electrocuted in the Biligiri Ranganathaswamy Temple (BRT) Tiger Reserve. This happened when the elephant came into contact with an illegal electrical fence that had been erected by a farmer to protect his farmland, mainly from the attacks by wild boards. The elephant died on the spot. Unfortunately, this is not a lone incident of adult elephants dying due to electrocution from illegal electric fences in the state.

According to the data from the Karnataka Forest Department, over the last two years (between January 2021 and March 2023), while 35 elephants have died due to unnatural causes, 22 of the deaths (63 per cent) were due to electrocution. Overall, 134 elephant deaths were recorded in the given period and 77 of them were males.

Officials say that all the recent cases of electrocution have been caused by illegal electrical fencing unlike a few years back when elephants fell prey to sagging transmission lines passing through forest and adjacent areas. A decade ago, the department worked together with electricity supply companies (ESCOMs) to ensure that transmission lines were raised, in a coordinated effort.

"This exercise was taken across the state between 2008 and 2012. Since then, regular patrolling has been going on, and any sagging is reported and rectified immediately. All the recent electrocution-related deaths in elephants are due to farmers drawing high-voltage electrical wires into their farmland fences. When elephants move out of forest areas at night, they encounter these wires and get electrocuted," said Kumar Pushkar, APCCF (wildlife), Karnataka Forest Department.

134 elephant deaths were recorded in K'taka and 77 of them were male

According to wildlife conservationists and experts, the electrocution of elephants should be treated as equivalent to poaching and strict action must be taken against the defaulters. However, while cases are being filed by the department, a poor conviction rate is the main cause of concern.

"Giving direct electricity to any fence is illegal and both the forest department and electricity board must treat it as a heinous crime. The forest department officials should look at such cases as poaching and ensure that defaulters are convicted. While cases are being filed by the department, convictions are nil, leading to no deterrent," said Ramesh Belagere, wildlife conservationist, Foundation for Ecology and Education Development.

Forest department officials agree that the conviction rate is low. However, they say that since the certainty of being caught is equally impactful, immediate arrests are being made to create fear amongst the perpetrators.

To negate resentment among the farmers regarding crop loss due to raids by wild animals including elephants, the government has doubled the compensation rate this year.

"Crop damage compensation has been doubled and we are also trying to create awareness in fringe villages. Our guards and watchers have been talking to farmers about the impact of snares and high-voltage electrical current. We are also installing barricading, and thus a large forest area is already safeguarded. This will reduce the outflow of elephants and further reduce the number of electrocution cases," said an official from the department.

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

ONE CLUE AT A TIME

A kitten came out of its mother's protection to explore further

The picture was clicked by BM reader **P Suryanarayana**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com**

Metro: Joining dots at a faster pace

Namma Metro completes almost 80% of tunnel on Kalena Agrahara-Nagawara route, which is part of pink line

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The construction of the 13.9 km long tunnel on the Kalena Agrahara-Nagawara route of Namma Metro is almost 80 per cent complete, with only 2.71 km left for tunnelling. The line will connect the Kempegowda International Airport and is part of the pink line, which is 21.25 km in total and currently under construction up to Gottigere-Dairy Circle.

The Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) plans to make this line available to passengers by the end of 2025. The tunnel construction work is divided into four packages, and two of them have been completed. The tunnel boring machines (TBM), including Urja, Avani, Lavi, Varada, and Vindhya, have already completed their work, with Tunga 32 per cent, Bhadra 6 per cent, and Rudra 86 per cent of tunnel work completed. Only Vamika is yet to start its work.

The Kalena Agrahara-Nagawara metro line passes through MG Road, Shivajinagar, Pottery Town, and Tannery Road, which has the highest vehicular traffic in the city. The line has three junction stations: Jayadeva Junction (yellow line), MG Road Station (purple line), and interchange (blue line) stations at Nagawara.

By 2025, it is expected that 4 lakh people will travel daily on this route, which will reduce vehicular traffic to a considerable extent. By 2031, the number of daily passengers is expected to increase to 5.13 lakh, and by 2041, it is expected to reach 5.67 lakh.

The metro rail line connecting the city centre to the airport will make it easy for passengers to reach the airport. The route will join the blue route from Silk Board Junction to KR Puram, Hebbal to reach the airport at Nagawara Junction. Passengers can get down at Nagawara Junction station and travel to the airport.

The line has elevated stations at Kalena Agrahara, Hulimavu, Indian Institute of Management Bangalore, Jayaprakash Nagar 4th Phase, Jayadeva Hospital, and Tavarekere. The underground stations include Dairy Circle, Lakkasandra, Langford Town, National Military School, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Shivajinagar, Cantonment Railway Station, Pottery Town, Tannery Road, Venkateshpuram, Kadugondanahalli, and Nagawara.

File photo of the first tunnel breaking through the ceremony of RT-04 project at Shadi Mahal Retrieval Shaft by tunnel boring machine Tunga

DID YOU KNOW?

Hebbal Lake is one of the lakes in Bengaluru, which was created in 1537 by Kempe Gowda. The lake can be viewed while travelling on the Hebbal flyover. Thislake was formed by the damming of valley systems. According to a study conducted in 2000, the lake was 75 hectare and there were plans to extend it to make it 143 hectare. The lake is eutrophic and supports many habitants such as water hyacinth. One can spot various kinds of birds in its vicinity such as shoveller, little grebe, grey herons, Indian spot-billed duck, pintail, Eurasian spoonbill, and more.

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

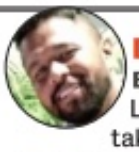
TAPTHECHATTER

where Bengalureans speak their mind

Tell us how you can help to preserve the greenery around the lakes.

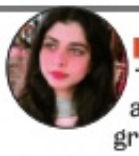
Sudarshan Sharma, BM Reader
The lake acts as a home for many habitats even the greenery surrounding the lake plays an important role in our lives. For preserving the greenery we should avoid cutting trees for our own needs.

Sumith Sai, BM Reader
Preserving the greenery is the responsibility of citizens and the government. As citizens, we should stop dumping garbage such as used plastic cans and covers under the tree, as well as avoid littering.



Deepak bharadwaj, BM Reader
Local bodies and government should take initiatives to preserve the greenery such as creating awareness programmes and campaigns to educate the public about vegetation through different platforms.

Prema Murthy, BM Reader
Greenhouse gases like carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide and nitrogen oxide are the major contributors to air pollution. Emissions from automobiles get deposited on leaves, which in turn affect the transpiration.



Hajira Uzma, BM Reader
T Government should take appropriate steps to enhance greenery in and around the lake by planting more shrubs and trees. This improves the environment and also attracts a lot of visitors for recreation.

Chaitra Sudarshan, BM Reader
The government should prioritise the preservation of greenery in and around lakes by taking up initiatives such as planting more shrubs and trees. This will improve the environment and attract visitors.

SPEAK TO US

What can be done to ensure that more Bengalureans turn up to vote?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com or WhatsApp us on 9591233247

Conspiracy theories & fervent rebuttals

Nomination papers being rejected, claims DKS; CM rubbishes allegations

Karnataka Congress President DK Shivakumar on Saturday accused the BJP, Chief Minister's office and BJP legal cell of "conspiring" to reject the nomination papers of the candidates of the grand-old party, a charge denied by the BJP.

Addressing a press conference here, Shivakumar said that his nomination paper saw maximum downloads.

"There is a legal team stationed at Kanakapura. Why downloads in such large numbers? This implies that their objective is to get my nomination rejected," he said.

POLL VAULT

Former CM Siddaramaiah, Congress candidate from Varuna, carried out brisk campaign in the constituency on Saturday. He was accompanied by actor Sadhu Kokila and others

"BJP, Chief Minister's Office and legal cell have conspired. Congress candidates' nominations have been downloaded. The Election Commission should focus on this development. BJP candidates' nomination papers in Savadatti constituency have problems, many BJP candidates' nominations have problems. But, nothing has been done," he alleged.

"They attempted to reject my nomination. If they can do this to me, what would be the fate of common candidates? The Election Commission should not bog down to any influence.

The Chief Minister's office is downloading nominations. The call details of the Chief Minister's office must be gathered. I am making a direct allegation, please investigate the matter," Shivakumar demanded.

Shivakumar also alleged that Union Minister for State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Shobha Karandlaje is "conspiring to finish off" former Chief Minister BS Yedi-

Congress chief wonders why his nomination papers have been downloaded so many times, seeks EC's attention

yurappa by joining hands with her other party leaders. "I can reveal details of how she is making plans to finish off Yediyurappa," he said.

Shivakumar claimed that the Lingayat vote bank of the BJP is not with the saffron party anymore.

"The dam of Lingayat vote bank has burst. It is flowing towards Congress," he said. Reacting to Shivakumar's charges, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai said: "No nomination is rejected. Shivakumar is making allegations as he does not have anything to say."

On Lingayat vote bank tilting towards Congress, Chief Minister Bommai said, "Lingayat voters are mature." **IANS**

Pre-poll wrap: What is Karnataka up to?

Chopper check

The Election officials on Saturday searched the private helicopter in which Congress state president DK Shivakumar's family travelled from Bengaluru to Dharmasthala in Dakshina Kannada district. Shivakumar's wife Usha, her son, daughter and son-in-law were on a pilgrimage to offer prayers at Dharmasthala Manjunatha Swamy temple.

Flying squad of ECI and officials conducted a check of the helicopter used by DK Shivakumar

As soon as the helicopter landed at Dharmasthala, the Election officials came forward to check the helicopter.

The pilot sought to know the need to check the helicopter when the Election Commission has been informed that this was not a vehicle on the election duty. "We have already given the letter (Election Commision)," the pilot was heard saying in a video which went viral.

"We have to check the helicopter," the Election officials said. "That's what I am saying. This is not an election flight. We have already given the letter stating that this is a private charter. Anyway, check," the pilot replied.

The Model Code of Conduct is in force in the State, which goes to polls on May 10. **– PTI**

Modi in town on April 30

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address a massive public rally on April 30 at Channapatna in Karnataka's Ramanagara district ahead of the Assembly elections scheduled to be held in the southern state on May 10, a BJP leader said on Saturday.

A party leader said that the BJP is aiming at winning more seats in certain parts of the state where it does not enjoy a significant stronghold.

Former Karnataka chief minister and Janata Dal-Secular leader H.D. Kumaraswamy is contesting from the Channapatna constituency. The BJP has fielded former minister C.P. Yogeshwar from this seat. Political analysts believe the constituency would witness a direct contest between the JD-S and the BJP. **– IANS**

Silver lamps seized, Nirani booked on charges of bribing voters

Karnataka Minister Murugesh Nirani, who is contesting the Assembly election from Bilgi on a BJP ticket, has been booked after 963 traditional silver lamps worth Rs 21.45 lakh were seized from the factory staff quarters under Mudhol Police Station limits on Friday.

The minister holding the Large and Medium Scale Industries portfolio has been booked under Section 171H of the IPC related to "illegal payments in connection with an election." "We have registered a case against Murugesh Nirani," a police officer at the Mudhol police station told PTI. According to the Chief Electoral Officer Manoj Kumar Meena, silver items weighing 28kg were seized by the Mudhol police.

"No of accused persons – one and others. To which political party connected to – BJP. Place of origin - Nirani

963 traditional silver lamps worth ₹21.45 lakh seized from the factory staff quarters

sugar factory staff quarters," Meena told PTI. The Minister was unavailable for comment.

Meanwhile, the daily bulletin shared by the CEO's office showed the cumulative seizure since March 29, reached Rs 253 crore on Friday.

On Friday, silver seized from Nirani's sugar factory, Rs 1.82 crore cash, Rs 37.64 lakh freebies and drugs worth Rs 45.25 lakh.

Cumulatively, Rs 82.05 crore, freebies worth Rs 19.69 crore, liquor worth Rs 56.67 crore, drugs worth Rs 16.55 crore, 145.55 kg gold worth Rs 73.8 crore and 610 kg silver worth Rs 4.28 crore have been seized in the poll-bound state. **– PTI**

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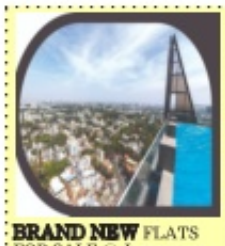
JAYANAGAR



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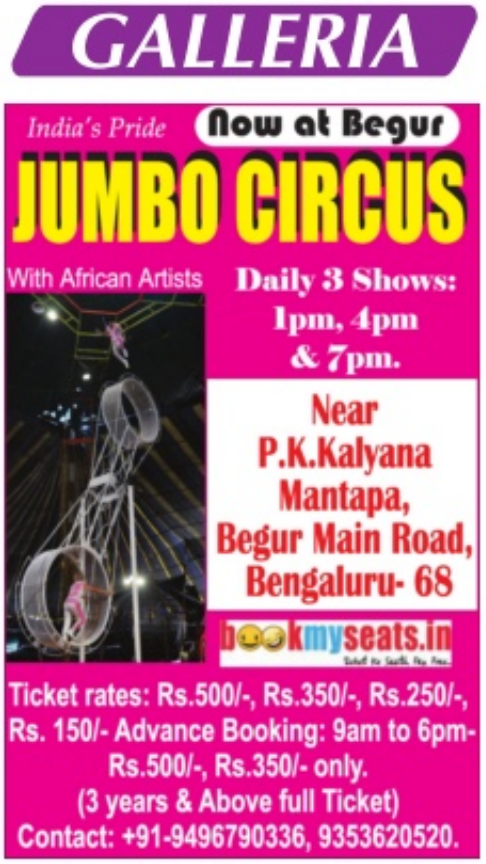

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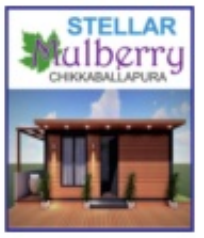

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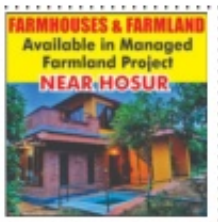

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Interview Venue Date
24/4/2023 10 am to 2 pm.
The Grand Krishna Hotel
Near Ayyappa Temple,
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Phone: 74486 15555

‘Stay cool for the next 5 days’

Cyclonic circulation and trough will bring relief from heat wave, says IMD

New Delhi

The India Meteorological Department on Saturday said most parts of India will have a sigh of relief for the next five days from the searing heatwave conditions that had rattled people this week.

It said a cyclonic circulation lies over northwest Madhya Pradesh and another over interior Tamil Nadu. A trough of relatively low pressure runs from northwest Madhya Pradesh to south Tamil Nadu across Telangana.

Private forecaster Skymet Weather added another trough extends from northeast Bihar to Odisha via Jharkhand.

Weather experts say a trough usually brings cloudy conditions and rain, leading to a drop in temperatures.

According to the IMD, several parts of India had been experiencing heatwave conditions for the past few days. High temperatures in the northern and central plains had forced the local administrations to either change the timings or shut the schools until the weather improves.

Even in the eastern hills, tea growers complained of relatively high temperatures and prolonged dry spell resulting in crop loss during the ongoing flush season.

In Delhi and its neighbouring areas, people were seen using scarves and taking shelter under trees on Saturday. The maximum temperature hovered around 37 degrees Celsius.

Clouds hover in the sky in Patna on Saturday

In Maharashtra, the government has shut down all schools affiliated with the state board till June 15. For Vidarbha region, the summer vacation extends till June 30.

Earlier this month, the IMD predicted above-normal maximum temperatures in most parts of the country from April to June, barring parts of the northwest and the peninsular regions. The central, east, and northwest parts of the country are expected to experience above-normal heatwave days during this period.

While a few regions have begun getting a respite from the heatwave conditions since Friday, the maximum temperature in some others — such northwest, central and east India, including interior Gujarat and Maharashtra, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Kerala — still hovered around 40 degrees Celsius.

On Saturday, the maximum temperature was around 35 degrees Celsius in the rest of the country, except the western Himalayan region, where the day temperature was recorded in the range of 16-25 degrees Celsius.

The IMD said Saturday that heatwave conditions abated from Gangetic West Bengal, Bihar and Odisha.

“No heatwave conditions over most parts of India during the next 5 days,” it added.

The weather office said hailstorms are very likely in parts of Odisha over the next three days, in Bihar for the next two days, and on Monday in Vidarbha. Heavy rainfall is expected in parts of Tamil Nadu and Kerala on Sunday and in Odisha on Monday.

Dust storm is very likely at isolated places in south Haryana, northeast Rajasthan and west Uttar Pradesh on Sunday.

Skymet said scattered rainfall is expected in the entire Northeast, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Telangana. Thunderstorms with patchy rain may occur over the western Himalayas, parts of Haryana, Punjab, Bihar, southeast Uttar Pradesh, southeast Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and south-interior Karnataka.

The IMD has advised farmers should undertake harvesting of matured rice, maize, groundnut and ragi in Andhra Pradesh; rice in Kerala and keep the harvested produce in safer places.

They should postpone harvesting of rice in Arunachal Pradesh and keep the already harvested produce at safer places. Farmers should use hail nets to protect orchards in sub-Himalayan West Bengal and Sikkim and Odisha. **PTI**

Wait for VV Towers Plaza

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the space to the public. Meanwhile, the public, especially those visiting the Visvesvaraya Towers seemed not happy with the delay in opening the VV Towers Plaza.

“I am at a loss to understand the authorities’ logic in delaying the opening of VV Towers Plaza for the public. The authorities promised to complete the work in three months but VV Towers Plaza remained shut for the public even after a year’s delay,” said Murali G, a visitor.

The KRIDL has developed the area into a people friendly public space. It will be an ideal place for visitors to the Visvesvaraya Towers to relax and immerse themselves in an abundance of art. There is a provision for cyclists to park their bicycles and relax for a while. VV Towers Plaza is user friendly for the visually challenged and differently abled citizens. A board with details of major landmarks, including Vidhana Soudha, Karnataka High Court, Raj Bhavan, Cubbon Park, Cubbon Park Metro Station, and Dr BR Ambedkar Metro Station, is put up at the plaza for the benefit of outsiders.

Nagaraj K, a government employee, demanded the authorities concerned take measures to open the VV Towers Plaza to the public. He said the developed public space will be an added attraction for those visiting Visvesvaraya Towers for various reasons. “We too can relax for a while at this place after having lunch,” said Nagaraj.

VV Towers Plaza has a selfie point apart from the seating arrangements. Differently abled persons can enter the plaza without any hassle.

DULT commissioner said VV Towers Plaza would be opened for the public after the election commission lifts the model code of conduct. “All the works are completed at VV Towers Plaza,” the commissioner said.

Bangalore Mirror reported on the public space – DULT readies ‘chill zone’ at Visvesvaraya Towers – on July 28, 2022.

Health impact of unsafe infra development

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and uncovered trucks carrying construction materials and debris are responsible for the high levels of dust pollution.

Due to children falling ill frequently, some residents have started exploring the option of moving away from Tech Park. Rohan*, a resident of another apartment complex in the area, has been looking for a suitable house away from the construction site. Rohan told BM that he decided to find another house after his five-year-old son developed multiple health issues a month ago.

“My son has developed skin rashes; his nose keeps getting blocked; he has developed cough and nose bleeding. Our paediatrician has confirmed that these issues are symptoms of dust allergy. I have been looking for a suitable house to rent so he gets fresh air to breathe. However, house rent in the area is skyrocketing. For now, I have covered my balconies and windows facing the construction site, with clothes to reduce dust entering the house,” said Rohan.

Another six-year-old living in the area has been suffering from recurring cold and fever.

“They are cutting stones without using water to sprinkle on the construction site and the roads leading to the site. My six-year-old daughter has been falling ill with cold and fever every few days. Even though I am desperately looking for options to move out of this place, I have not been able to find a house within our budget. It is not just the dust; the site is noisy as well,” said Prateek*, another resident of Sreeja Tanishq apartment complex.

Local residents said the amount of dust emanating from the construction site is so massive in proportion that their homes and cars get caked with dust layers every day. The situation is quite dreadful for residents who live in apartments facing the construction site.

“If we clean our cars and dust our furniture today, everything will be covered with layers of dust by the next day. Getting fresh air has become a rarity as a lot of dust enters if we open our windows,” said another resident.

Residents told BM that while dust pollution is rampant, the construction site has blatantly violated the Karnataka High Court’s ruling on night-time construction activities for months at a stretch.

“The residents registered a complaint with the local police station, but nothing changed for months. We had called the police multiple times, but it appeared as if they were hand-in-glove with the contractors. They would just visit the site and leave after standing there for a couple of minutes. While the night-time construction activity has stopped since Wednesday, it used to go on 24X7 for at least two months before that,” said Raman, another resident of the area.

(*name changed)

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I, Rohit Kumara Haridas Naidu Yogishkumar S/o Yogesh Kumar.H R/o 179/1, 1st Cross Road, Forest Layout, 1st C Main Road, Jnanabharathi, Bengaluru 560056 have changed my name to Rohith Kumara Haridas Naidu Yogishkumar for all purposes.

I Surajit Baruah S/o Samar Kanti Barua R/o Flat # 008, Pariwar prince, 60 ft Road, anugraha layout, bilekahalli, bengaluru 560076 have changed my name from Surajit Barua to Surajit Baruah

I, Avanish Vinod Srivastav, S/o. Vinod Srivastav, R/o. 406, Elegance Elite Apt., Kammasan-dra, E City, P-2, Blr-100, have changed my name to AVANISH SRIVASTAV for all purposes.

I Kowsalya Shankar W/o M.S. Shankar R/o No 177/88, Cubbonpet Main Rd Bengaluru 560002 Karnataka have changed my name to Kowshalya Shankar for all purposes.

I, Papul R/o 13th GO11 Golden Homes Owners Court East Kasavanahalli B'luru 560035 have changed my name to Pupul Vatsal for all purposes.

LOST & FOUND

I, Seema Raymond W/o Edmund Raymon R/a : No.7,1st Main Road, Vijaya Bank colony, Kalyan Nagar, Doddabanaswadi, Bengaluru; have lost my Original Sale Deed, and Khata No. 423/5; pertaining to Site No.8 & 9 on 25-02-23 at Maruti Seva Nagar, Venkatramana Layout. If found, please hand over to the nearest Police station or above mentioned address, or Call 8197699720.

HEALTH TIP: Research shows that engaging in mindful activities like meditation can help reduce stress and job strain and improve overall well-being

Maintaining good hydration levels may help prevent migraine and reduce symptoms, as dehydration can be a migraine trigger

BangaloreMirror | 13
Sunday, April 23, 2023
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SNACK IT, ASIAN STYLE

These dishes are typical Asian favourites, and are perfect for those midnight cravings

MISO BEETROOT MAKI

Prep Time: 5 mins
Portion size: 8 pieces
Serves 2

INGREDIENTS
- Sushi Rice Black: 100 gm
- Beetroot: 70 gm
- Miso Paste: 10 gm
- Basil Chop: 05 gm
- Vietnamese Dip: 02 gm
- Veg XO Sauce: 06 gm
- Seasoning: 02 gm
- Maida: 650 gm
- Cornflour: 1cup (250)
- Water: 1.125 ml
- Beetroot Blood: 60 ml
- Nori Sheets: ½
- Wasabi Powder: 10 gm
- Sause Kikoman Soya: 15 ml
- Pickle Ginger: 15 gm

METHOD
- Cut the beetroot into small dice, blanch it in boiling water for 2 minute take out the roast with a torch to make it dry, and keep aside. In the bowl put beetroot, basil, miso, Vietnamese dip, XO veg sauce, make a filling and keep aside. Take a nori sheet and keep on the sushi rolling mat. Neatly spread black vinegared rice on it. Press the rice on beetroot tanuki and cover the entire rice to get the crispy layer on rice. Arrange the beetroot mixture in the centre of the maki roll, cut it into 8 pieces topped with mayo, sesame seed white & spring onion on top. Serve with pickle ginger, wasabi and soy sauce.

VEGETABLE WONTON WITH SICHUAN CHILLI OIL

Prep Time: 10 mins
Portion size: 6 pieces
Serves 2

INGREDIENTS
- Shitake Mushroom
- Chinese Cabbage: 10gm
- Coriander Roots: 5gm
- Light Soya: 5gm
- Oyster Sauce: 5gm
- Sesame Oil: 5gm
- Seasoning: 5gm
- Salt: 3gm
- Sugar; 3gm
- Spring Onions: 5gm
- Sesame Seed White: 3gm
- Gyoza Wrapper: 40gm

METHOD
- Chop the shiitake mushrooms and Chinese cabbage and keep aside. Heat oil in the wok sauté garlic, finely chopped coriander roots and add the chopped vegetables. Add all the sauces and seasonings, Remove in a bowl and allow it to cool. Roll gyoza wrapper into thin square, place the filling and make wontons shape of it. In a wok heat some water add seasoning to it and once the water is boiled add the wontons and boil till it's cooked. Place the chili oil sauce in the bottom of the bowl and put the wontons over it. Garnish it with chopped spring onions and white sesame seeds.

BEETROOT CRYSTAL

Prep Time: 10 mins
Portion size: 4 pieces
Serves 1

INGREDIENTS
- Beetroots Blanched: 100 gm
- Red Chilli Chopped: 05 gm
- Mushroom Oyster Sauce: 20 gm
- Light Soya: 10 ml
- Seasoning: 10 ml
- Salt: 05 ml
- Crystal Stretch Dough Wrapper: 10 ml

METHOD
- Cut the beetroot into small dice blanch in hot water and keep aside. Take a pan sauté beetroot and add all ingredients, sauté for a while making a nice filling. Make crystal wrapper. Put beetroot filling on top of it. Wrap it to make a crystal dumpling shape. Steam it for 8 minutes and serve piping hot with xo sauce.

VEG SPICY CALIFORNIA MAKI

Prep Time: 5 mins
Portion size: 8 pieces
Serves 2

INGREDIENTS
- Sushi Rice: 100 gm
- Avocado: 30 gm
- Shitake Mushroom: 10 gm
- Cucumber: 40 gm
- Sesame Seed White: 5 gm
- Nori Sheets: ½
- Wasabi Powder: 10 gm
- Sauce Kikoman Soya: 15 ml
- Pickled Ginger: 15 gm

METHOD
- Take the nori sheet and keep on the sushi rolling mat. Neatly spread vinegared rice on to it, sprinkle with sesame seed & apply Japanese mayo and wasabi.
- Place filling of avocado, shitake mushroom and cucumber batons.
- Roll it and cut it into 8 pieces, serve with pickle ginger, wasabi and soy sauce.

Recipes by Chef Priyank Singh Chouhan, Director – Culinary & Operations for JSM Corporation

All problems solved

Dear Coleen

I've been married 43 years and haven't been intimate with my wife for 13 of those. She works nights and I'm retired, so this is my problem. We no longer sleep together and I miss the closeness of a cuddle, a kiss or an "I love you". We moved to our bungalow three years ago and refurbished the back bedroom, and also created an en suite bathroom for the master bedroom.
I suggested my wife use the back bedroom on working days so we didn't disturb each other, and her response was, "Oh, so you're shoving me off to the back room". Intimacy of any kind has gone and we just tolerate each other when we're not bickering, but I still love her and love our home. I don't seem to get that feeling from her, though. I heard some guys in the pub talking about a masseuse they use (I think the massage culminates in a "happy ending"), so I'm thinking of seeking this out. Please advise...

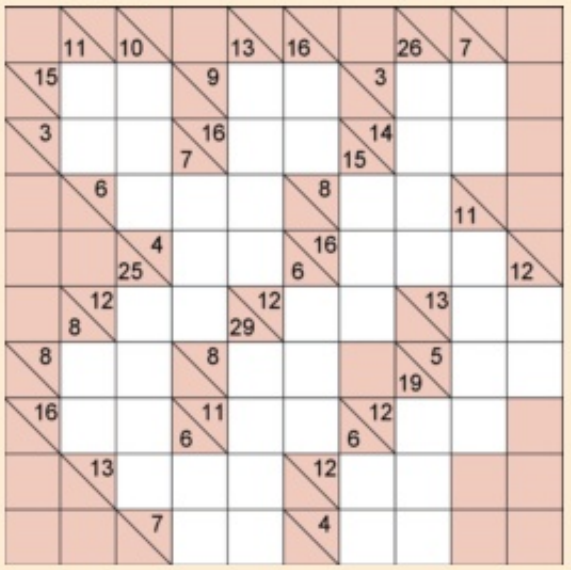
COLEEN SAYS

I think you put doubts in her mind when you suggested she sleeps in a different room. Why are you waiting for her to do something? She might feel exactly how you're feeling. Do not go down the masseuse route when you haven't talked to your wife. It sounds as if the weird atmosphere in the house is because you have loads to say to each other but don't know how to say it and your frustration is coming out in bickering. When you do talk to her, don't be accusatory. Tell her you love her and miss her and that you miss the connection you used to share. Suggest you both try to do something about it, and you can start by making time for each other. Start going out together again, even if it's just for a meal. Stop waiting for the other one to make the first move.
— Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

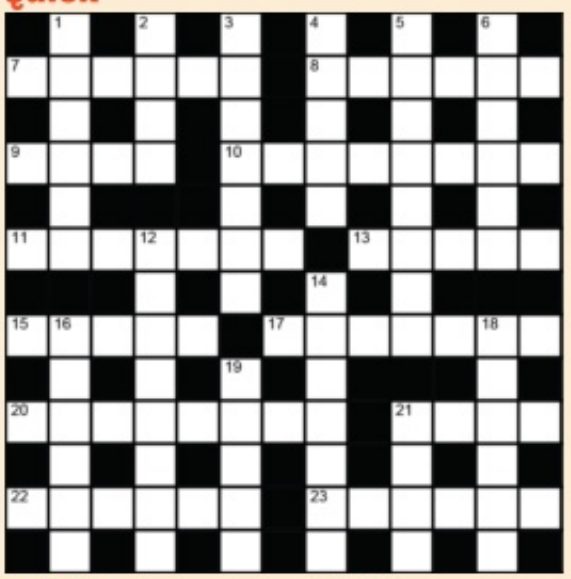
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Container for liquid (6)
8 Type of monkey (6)
9 Precipitation of the clouds (4)
10 Attendance check (4,4)
11 Find fault (7)
13 Beaches, usually (5)
15 Marks; blemishes (5)
17 Set down in words (7)
20 Fractional part of logarithm (8)
21 Flying creature (4)
22 Thwart (6)
23 Messiah composer? (6)

DOWN

1 Mogadishu resident (6)
2 Knock senseless (4)
3 Privateness (7)
4 Decorative ruffle (5)
5 Trader (8)
6 Tugged (6)
12 Occurring intermittently (4-4)
14 Bangalore cinema home to India's first 4k screen (7)
16 Innocent (6)
18 Gained by work (6)
19 Off-center (5)
21 Femur for one, tibia for another (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: K EQUALS I

PTN CL PGKAXGV PGKAX?
MXJIQVX KA KVE'A ATXGX.

Linemaro

I live for the sparkle in your eyes

Mindchow

Each friend represents a world in us, a world possibly not born until they arrive

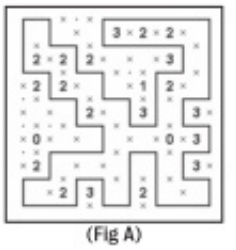
Joke of the day

I prefer books for company because they don't make bad jokes, drink too much or eat more than I can afford to pay for

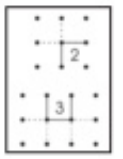
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

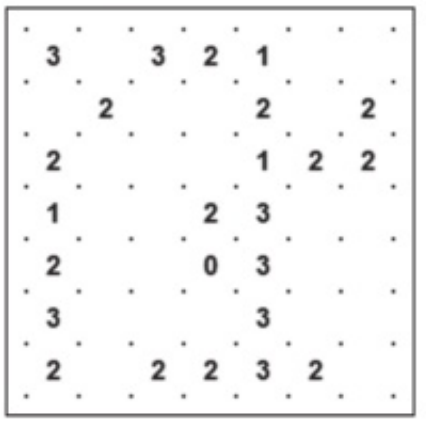


(Fig B) Not Allowed

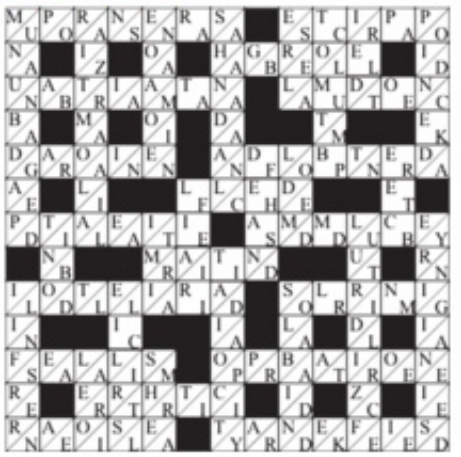
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



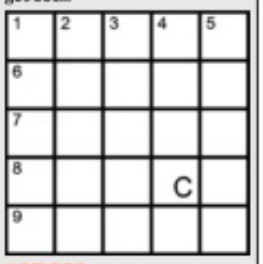
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set....



ACROSS

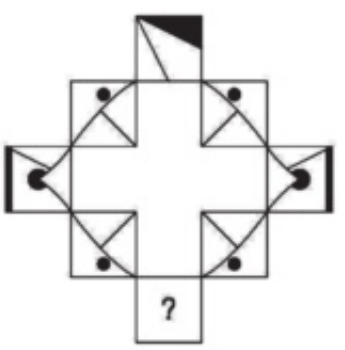
1 Is STC 6 U lent
7 Reset 8 Crete
9 Scoke

DOWN

1 Use CC 2 It nor
3 Keels 4 Crete
5 Tests

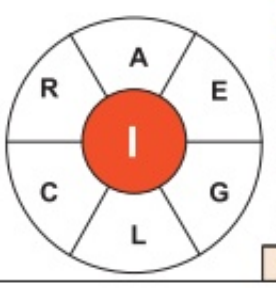
Mensapuzzle

Which square below should replace the question mark?



A B C D E

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

11 Average; 13 Good; 15 Outstanding

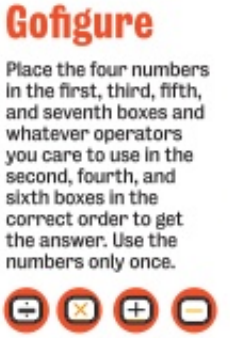
SudokuChallenge

8								9
4	7						1	2
			2		4			
6	4		5		2		8	1
		3		4		2		
7	2		8		3		9	5
			7		9			
9	1						3	7
3								8

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

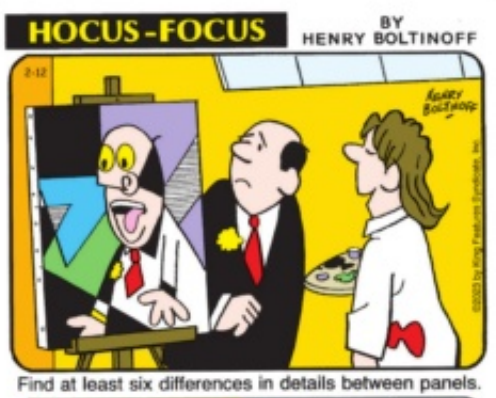
Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

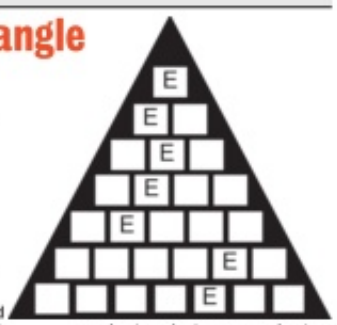
Differences: 1. Paint on smock is higher. 2. Hair is shorter. 3. Arm in painting is shorter. 4. Window is not as wide. 5. Canvas is not as wide. 6. Man's ear is higher.

Riddler

Experience my height As you conquer your fright And behold a new sight I am fun for most folks Hanging high by my spokes Above the elms and oaks So why not climb on in And take me for a spin? Let your round trip begin What am I?

Alpha triangle

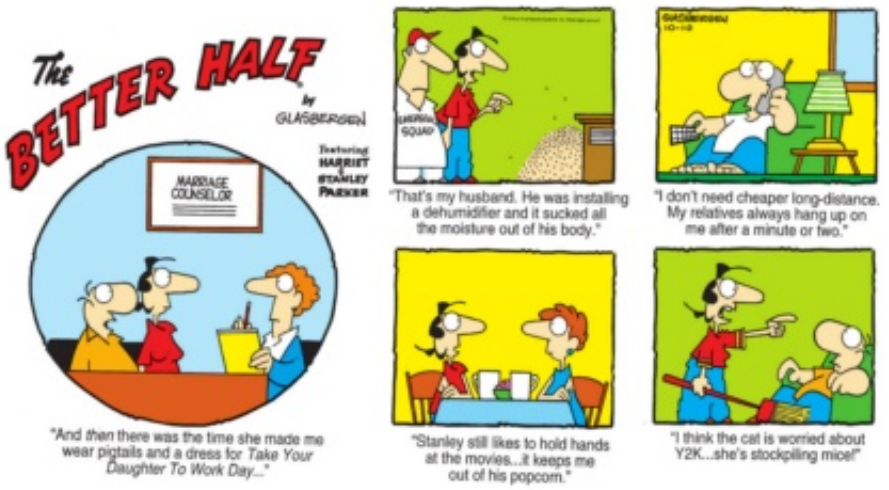
1 Second vowel
2 __tu Brute ...
3 Breakfast drink
4 What ushers do
5 Dolorous drops
6 Buys and sells
7 Most beloved



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS


The BETTER HALF
by GLASBERGEN
Featuring HARRIET & STANLEY PARKER
MARRIAGE COUNSELOR
"And then there was the time she made me wear pigtails and a dress for Take Your Daughter To Work Day..."
"That's my husband. He was installing a dehumidifier and it sucked all the moisture out of his body."
"I don't need cheaper long-distance. My relatives always hang up on me after a minute or two."
"Stanley still likes to hold hands at the movies...it keeps me out of his popcorn."
"I think the cat is worried about Y2K...she's stockpiling mice!"

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
Stan Lee
CAN A NORMAL COLLEGE STUDENT COPE WITH SUPER POWER AND A SECRET IDENTITY OR--MUST DISASTER FOLLOW?

SOMEHOW I FEEL ALL TURNED AROUND TODAY!
MOST OF THE TIME, I PROWL AROUND AS SPIDER-MAN BY NIGHT...
AND PETER PARKER SLEEPS DURING THE DAY, OR WALKS AROUND THE CITY SNAPPING PICTURES.
BUT TONIGHT, PETER'S GOT A LATE DATE WITH SOMEONE WHO SAYS SHE CAN LEAD HIM TO IRON FIST...
AND I'M PLAYING FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN IN BROAD DAYLIGHT!
YO, SPIDEY! WAY TO GO!
DON'T LET YOUR HEAD GET WARPED, MAN!
ON THE OTHER HAND, SOMETIMES IT'S COOL TO GET A LITTLE POSITIVE FEEDBACK WHILE THE SUN'S OUT!
AND WHO KNOWS WHAT PETER'LL FIND TONIGHT--IN CHINATOWN!
CROUCHING DRAGON--
HIDDEN DANGER!

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may feel very dull, which could make you lazy and careless. You are likely to be unfocused at work, and impatience may negatively affect you. It is advisable to avoid making investments in assets. The health of your kids and spouse may upset you. Lovebirds should avoid arguments on family matters. Students are advised to study in depth to succeed in their exams.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, the moon has negative energy, and you may find negative vibrations around you, which could upset you. Avoid investing in worthless assets. Do not expect too much from people around you at work, home, and society, or it may make you more upset. Follow your intuition before making important decisions today.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
: Today, you are blessed by elders. You may successfully implement business plans with the help of your subordinates. You may attend some social or family gatherings, which could boost your network. You may go on short business-related travels, which could benefit you in the near future. Any disputes with your siblings may be resolved now.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today is a good day, and your financial health is likely to be good. You may benefit from your past investments. Try to control your spending on worthless stuff, which could boost your savings. Lovebirds are advised to be polite in conversations with their partners; otherwise, conflicts may arise.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you are blessed by the moon, making it a good day for you. You have good vitality and energy. You may enjoy your work and make new plans to start some new projects. Your perfection may help you design the flow chart. Job aspirants will find a good job. Lovebirds are advised to avoid discussions on worthless topics.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you may feel disappointed. Control your arrogance; otherwise, you may face losses due to your speaking while talking with anyone. Lovebirds should be careful when discussing worthless topics, as it may be a reason for a breakup in the relationship.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you are blessed by the moon, and new sources of income may likely open up for you. Your past investments will start paying off in terms of profits, and your losses will convert into profits, boosting your financial health. Health issues related to parents may be resolved.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may be very happy and busy at work. Your seniors may be happy and appreciate your work. You may have some changes in your place, position, or responsibilities at work, in terms of promotions. Your opponents and hidden enemies may be under control now. Singles and lovebirds may make important decisions regarding marriage with the help of relatives or friends.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you are blessed by the moon, and the messy situation from the past few days is now under control. You may initiate postponed works, and with the blessings, you may get rewarded for your hard work. Your business may experience gains, boosting your savings. You may spend money on artifacts or literature and plan for an overseas trip.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may feel dull and face health issues, affecting your profession and domestic life. You may feel upset due to your spouse's health issues, and running projects may stop without any reason. Avoid investing in new business projects, or you may face losses. Students are advised to avoid fantasies and work hard on their studies.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you may be busy at work and likely to explore extra sources of income, which could boost your bank balance. You may take an interest in artifacts, movies, glamour, which could improve your creativity. Lovebirds can convert their relationship into marriage, and students may now move forward towards their career goals.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you are blessed by the positive moon. You may feel healthy, and old health issues may be cured now. Money that was stuck somewhere may likely be recovered now. You may also apply for a loan to buy some luxury items. You may also be able to control your opponents.

KIDZONE

A Srihasha Bhatt, 13 Years, Indiranagar Cambridge School

Ankitha J, 8 Years, Presidency School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
64-2[6-(9-4)+9-(24-8)]+6(2+3) =
64-2[6-36+9+18]+30 =
64-2[-30+0.5]+30 =
64-2[-29.5]+30 =
152

RIDDLER
A Ferris wheel

FAST FIVE

C	O	K	E	S
E	R	E	C	T
S	T	E	R	E
U	N	L	E	T
C	I	S	T	S

STRIKE OUT

M	O	A	N	E	R	S
A	I	A	A	B	E	L
N	A	R	I	K	A	N
A	Y	A	O	D	M	E
G	R	A	I	N	A	D
E	I	F	L	E	D	T
R	A	I	S	E	Y	A

QUICK

S	S	F	M	P	S	C
B	O	T	T	L	E	R
M	U	C	I	R	L	E
R	A	I	N	R	O	L
L	E	T	H	E	L	
S	Y	M	I	E	H	A
S	I	K	S	O	N	
M	A	N	T	I	S	A
H	T	A	V			
S	C	A	R	S	W	R
A	Y	U	N			
N	I	T	P	I	C	K
E	L	H	E			
R	A	I	N	R	O	L
M	U	C	I	R	L	
B	O	T	T	L	E	R
S	S	F	M	P	S	C

MENSA PUZZLE
A: directly opposite
squares are a mirror image of each other.

QUOTE UNCODE
Why do writers write? Because it isn't there.

BULL'S EYE
aglee, caglee, olgae, garlic, glric, GLACIER, grail, lair, liar, lloe, lra, rail, rglic, rlce, rlle

SUDOKU

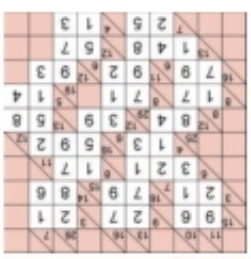
8	3	2	1	5	7	6	4	9
4	7	5	3	9	6	8	1	2
1	9	6	2	8	4	7	5	3
6	4	9	5	7	2	3	8	1
5	8	3	9	4	1	2	7	6
7	2	1	8	6	3	4	9	5
2	5	8	7	3	9	1	6	4
9	1	4	6	2	8	5	3	7
3	6	7	4	1	5	9	2	8

ALPHA TRIANGLE
E, Et, Tea, Seat, tears, Trades, Dearest.

LOOP

GO FIGURE
Easy
3 + 2 + 9 x 1 = 14
Medium
9 x 2 + 1 - 2 = 17
Hard
3 - 2 + 9 - 2 = 8

KAKURO



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 # Queer cast

Luca Guadagnino will next direct the William S Burroughs adaptation 'Queer' with Hollywood star Daniel Craig and Drew Starkey. Queer' will also topline Lesley Manville, Jason Schwartzman and Henry Zaga

Couple goals

Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas attended 'Citadel's Rome special screening event in style. What grabbed everyone's attention from the premiere night is they seemed to be head-over-heels in love with each other dishing out major couple goals. Several videos and pictures from the event are already doing the rounds on social media.

. There is one particular video which has gone viral. Priyanka can be seen posing for the media on the red carpet, while her husband Nick Jonas silently stands in one corner but he didn't miss the opportunity to click some amazing pictures of his wife without even letting her know.

Earlier at Citadel's premier in London too the couple gave out major fashion goals. For the premiere night, PC opted for a beautiful red off-shoulder deep-neck gown and Nick looked handsome in an all-black suit with sharp lapels and a turtle-neck underneath.

-ETimes

Low-key travel

Kriti Sanon recently travelled to Indore and a video of hers in the aircraft is going viral on the internet. A passenger captured Kriti flying in economy class. The actress maintained a low profile and didn't attract much attention with her starry presence.

Another video of Kriti saw her playing with a baby and blowing kisses to the toddler. The actress is in Indore for an event and will be meeting fans and relishing Indori delicacies. "I've been to Indore to promote my films but this time I am especially going there to meet my fans and interact with them over a fun session. I remember being amazed with how clean and beautiful the city is. Indore has set a prime example for other cities to follow when it comes to waste management," Kriti had said.

-ETimes

HOME WITH FAM

Anushka Sharma enjoys outing with Virat Kohli and parents in her hometown B'luru

Anushka Sharma is back in her hometown Bengaluru and she spent some quality time savouring delicious South-Indian food on Saturday. She was accompanied by her husband Virat Kohli, her parents and other family friends.

Anushka took to Instagram stories to share the updates with her fans. In the first frame, she shared a picture of the famous food joint in Bengaluru where she had lunch with her family.

Then she posted pictures of dosa, halwa, Vada and some yummy ice cream too from the popular ice cream parlour of Bengaluru.

There's a full-house frame for the fans too, where Anushka was joined by her parents, Virat and other friends.

The official Instagram handle of the food joint shared a gratitude note saying, "It was lovely hosting you @virat.kohli and your family! Looking forward to your next visit."

Kohli is currently busy playing for Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) in the 16th edition of IPL. RCB will take on Rajasthan Royals on Sunday in Bangalore. Meanwhile, on the work front, Anushka will be seen essaying the role of the iconic Indian pace bowler Jhulan Goswami in the film 'Chakda Xpress'.

-ANI

Miles to go...

Actress Alaya F is currently seen playing the lead role of Radhika, a reporting intern in the supernatural thriller movie 'U-Turn'.

Her character has been given an assignment to investigate accidents that are happening at the U-turn on a particular flyover. She said that there is a lot of pressure of playing the lead role in any project as a lot is expected from the actor by the makers so there is an added pressure. Alaya also added that she is happy to be part of a cinema with more and more projects being made around female protagonists.

She said: "There is a lot of pressure, it is scary I won't lie but sometimes you need to just jump in. I used to be concerned about this but then you remind yourself that you are working with someone like Ekta Ma'am who has been such a strong and powerful boss lady in this industry. Gender bias or roles have never affected her personality. It doesn't apply to her."

The actress added further that things are changing in the industry and now-a-days, many films are made with women actors as the protagonist.

"Right from my first film I have been really grateful for being offered wonderful characters and neat parts in every film I have done. It is a real blessing because as an actor I have to say very honestly that this is the best generation where films are being made," she added.

"I definitely enjoy his era of cinema better because it is something which connects with me. I think we still have a long way to go when it comes to women having great opportunities, but we have definitely started off towards incredible beginnings," concluded the 25-year-old actress.

-IANS

What would have happened if...

NODADA PUTAGALU (KANNADA)
3.0 RATING ★★★★★
- **DIRECTOR** Vasanth Kumar S
- **ACTORS** Preetham Makkihali, Kavya Ramesh, Vilas Kulkarni, Raju Nayak, Showbhagya, Shanti
- **Duration** 143 minutes
- **Certification** U

Nodada Putagalu attempts to convey a message to the society, especially to students who fail either in exams or in love, that ending their life is not a solution to problems.

The movie starts off with a scene where Chitraksha from Yamaloka is reading a book with details on the future of baby Adithya. In the next scene we see Adithya and Hema, who are neighbours and go to the same school. Then the director shows how Adithya (Preetham Makkihali) returns from abroad and joins a company where Harini (Kavya Ramesh) is working under Sowmya (Shanti). Initially, Harini hates Adithya but becomes close to him after knowing how he helped Sowmya get back together with her estranged husband.

Meanwhile, the director narrates, with a flashback, how Adithya had a crush with his classmate Sunitha and how not he failed in his SSLC examination and the relationship also didn't work out. He sees Sunitha with another boy and ends his life by suicide. We are shown how Adithya could have led his life were he alive. The remaining part of the movie is what would have happened to him if he had decided to choose life.

The movie has a lot of twists and turns that keeps the audiences guessing. The climax is very interesting and the director deserves a pat on the back for it. Some of the scenes, especially those of high school where boys try their best to impress girl students and another scene where hero and heroine visit one of their classmates elicit much mirth.

As far as the performance of the actors is concerned, Preetham Makkihali, as a young and energetic techie, is convincing. His body language and dialogue delivery are appreciable and Kavya Ramesh looks good and as a short-tempered techie, has acted well. Shanti, as a concerned team leader and a wife who craves to patch up with her estranged hubby, is convincing.

Cinematographer Kumar M has done a good job.

It is worth a watch, and especially so if you are a student of life.

-Y Maheswara Reddy